

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 9164

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, CY

SUBJECT: DEPARTURES OF GREEK CYPRIOTS FROM NORTHERN CYPRUS

REF: (A) STATE 288625, (B) NICOSIA 3736, (C) NICOSIA 3743

1. EMBOFF MET WITH MFA CYPRUS-GREEK DIRECTOR GUVENDIREN MORNING DECEMBER 1 AND EXPRESSED CONCERN ALONG THE LINES OF PARA 4 REF A WITH RESPECT TO THE PROBLEM OF GREEK CYPRIOTS' DEPARTURES FROM NORTHERN CYPRUS. EMBOFF SPECIFICALLY CITED ALL THE GOC CHARGES DESCRIBED IN PARA 2, REFC.

2. REFERRING TO THE GOC CHARGES, GUVENDIREN SAID "I REJECT ALL THESE ALLEGATIONS AS UNFOUNDED AND FURTHERMORE AS DOWNRIGHT LIES." WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT THE CHARGES THAT TURKISH CYPRIOT POLICE IGNORED THEFTS FROM GREEK CYPRIOT HOUSES AND THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE FREQUENTLY BEATEN, GUVENDIREN SAID THAT ON HIS RECENT 18-DAY VISIT TO CYPRUS HE HAD VISITED THE KARPASS AREA TO SEE THE SITUATION OF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS. HIS IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE POLICE THERE WERE TREATING BOTH TURKISH AND GREEK
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CYPRIOIS IMPARTIALLY AND WITH GOOD PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS. ASKED ABOUT THE CHARGE THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS IN THE NORTH HAVE NO DOCTORS OR PRIESTS, GUVENDIREN SAID HE KNEW THAT THERE ARE DOCTORS, PRIESTS, AND TEACHERS IN THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES IN THE NORTH, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT KNOW THE NUMBERS. THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS PREVIOUSLY HAD OFFERED TO ACCEPT MORE PERSONS FROM THE SOUTH IN THIS CATEGORY, BUT THE LIST OF PROPOSED NAMES FURNISHED BY THE GOC WAS ALMOST ENTIRELY "EOKA CHARACTERS". FURTHERMORE, HE SAID, THERE ARE THREE PRIESTS AT ST. BARNABAS CHURCH (NORTH OF FAMAGUSTA) WHO WANT TO LEAVE BUT, AT ANKARA'S URGING, HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN PERMISSION TO MOVE SOUTH. DENKTAS HAS REPORTED THAT HE CANNOT KEEP THEM IN VIRTUAL DETENTION MUCH LONGER.

3. THE FACT IS, GUVENDIREN SAID, THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS IN THE NORTH DO NOT WANT TO STAY THERE BECAUSE OF THEIR BASIC FEELING OF INSECURITY. THAT FEELING HAS BEEN INCREASED BY ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS' TALK OF A "LONG STRUGGLE". DENKTAS IS INCREASING FREEDOM OF TRAVEL FOR THE GREEK CYPRIOTS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, HE CONTINUED, BUT "NOBODY CAN CHANGE THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THESE PEOPLE".

4. THE BASIC PROBLEM IN DEALING WITH GREEK CYPRIOT PROPAGANDA CHARGES ON THIS ISSUE, GUVENDIREN POINTED OUT, CONTINUES TO BE THAT THERE IS NO ARRANGEMENT FOR INVESTIGATION OF THE SITUATION BY AN IMPARTIAL AUTHORITY. HE SAID HE HAD JUST RECEIVED BAD NEWS ABOUT THE PROCESS VERBAL WHICH HE HAD HELPED NEGOTIATE BETWEEN THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS AND THE UN ON UNFICYP ACTIVITIES IN THE NORTH AND WHICH WOULD PROVIDE A BASIS, INTER ALIA, FOR UNCICYP INVESTIGATION OF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS' CONDITION IN THE NORTH. HE SAID THAT FOR USG INFORMATION ONLY, HE HAD A REPORT THAT UN SPECIAL REP PEREZ DE CUELLAR WAS GOING TO MEET WITH DENKTAS TODAY (DECEMBER 1) TO SAY THAT SYG WALDHEIM HAD REVIEWED THE PROCESS VERBAL AND WAS UNABLE TO ACCEPT THE FORMULATION REGARDING THE TITLE WITH WHICH IT HAD BEEN AGREED THAT DENKTAS WOULD SIGN THE AGREEMENT ("PRESIDENT", WITHOUT SPECIFYING WHAT HE IS PRESIDENT OF). PEREZ DE CUELLAR WOULD OFFER THREE ALTERNATIVES: (A) HE AND DENKTAS COULD DESIGNATE TWO PERSONS TO INITIAL EACH PAGE OF THE AGREEMENT FOR THEM; (B) HE AND DENKTAS COULD SIGN WITHOUT TITLES; OR (C) HE COULD SIGN WITH HIS TITLE AND DENKTAS WITHOUT.

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5. GUVENDIREN COMMENTED THAT WALDHEIM'S BACKING AWAY FROM A PAINFULLY NEGOTIATED FORMULA NO DOUBT REFLECTED PRESSURE FROM MAKARIOS, WHO WAS "NOT INTERESTED IN THE WELFARE OF HIS PEOPLE IN THE NORTH". HE PREDICTED THAT WALDHEIM'S DECISION WOULD BE A SERIOUS SETBACK IN THE EFFORT TO PRODUCE AN UNFICYP-TURKISH CYPRIOT AGREEMENT. EMBOFF OBSERVED THAT IT WOULD SEEM MORE IN TURKEY'S INTERESTS AT THIS TIME TO HAVE THE AGREEMENT THAN TO

CONTINUE PRESSING FOR SOME FORM OF RECOGNITION OF DENKTAS, AND ASKED IF THE GOT COULD NOT PRESS DENKTASH TO ACCEPT ONE OF PEREZ' OPTIONS. GUVENDIREN DID NOT DISAGREE, BUT SAID THAT THE ISSUE OF RECOGNITION WAS IMPORTANT TO DENKTAS AND THAT THERE WERE LIMITS ON HOW FAR THE GOT COULD PRESS HIM.

6. AS REGARDS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS MIGHT RAISE THE "EXPULSION" ISSUE AT THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON THE EXTENSION OF UNFICYP LATER THIS MONTH, GUVENDIREN MADE CLEAR THAT THE TURKISH SIDE WAS FULLY PREPARED FOR A DEBATE. "I HOPE THEY DO RAISE IT AT THE SECURITY COUNCIL", HE SAID. "WE'LL CONTRAST THE TREATMENT OF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS IN THE NORTH WITH WHAT THEIR PEOPLE DID TO THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS IN THE SOUTH BEGINNING IN 1963." (FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE GOT'S POSITION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL REPORTED BY SEPTEL.)
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